

The Effects of Digital Amnesia on Knowledge Construction and Memory Retention

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Notes

This paper was presented at the "Hybrid International Conference on Library and Information Science" held by the **Asosiasi Penyelenggara Pendidikan Tinggi Ilmu Perpustakaan dan Informasi (APTPI)** in collaboration with **Program Studi Ilmu Perpustakaan, UIN Alauddin Makassar** on October 25th, 2023 with the theme: "*Fostering the Alignment of Teaching, Learning, and Field Experience to Build Competencies in Library & Information Science Education*"

How to cite: Musa, N., Mukhtaruddin, & Bakkara, V. F. (2023). The Effects of Digital Amnesia on Knowledge Construction and Memory Retention. *Khizanah Al-Hikmah : Jurnal Ilmu Perpustakaan, Informasi, Dan Kearsipan*, 11(2). Retrieved from <https://journal.uin-alauddin.ac.id/index.php/khizanah-al-hikmah/article/view/43959>

DOI: [10.24252/kah.v11i2cf1](https://doi.org/10.24252/kah.v11i2cf1)

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ABSTRACT

The growing usage of digital technologies raised concerns regarding the possible adverse effects of digital amnesia, in which people forget readily available knowledge saved in their gadgets. This study investigated the effects of digital amnesia on memory retention and knowledge construction through experiment studies. The tasks given to the participants required either digital devices or more conventional memory storage and retrieval methods. Memory performance and knowledge construction were assessed through various tests and assessments. The findings indicated that excessive reliance on digital devices for information storage led to digital amnesia. Participants who used digital tools exhibited lower memory retention and shallower information processing compared to those employing traditional memory strategies. The results highlighted the negative implications of digital amnesia for memory retention and knowledge construction. Striking a balance between reliance on digital tools and active engagement in memory processes was crucial. Actively encoding and retrieving information can mitigate risks associated with shallow processing and information overload.

Keywords: Digital amnesia; memory retention; knowledge construction

1. INTRODUCTION

Digital amnesia emerged as a significant concern in the digital age, characterized by the widespread availability of vast information (Sparrow et al., 2011; Baron, 2021). As people increasingly relied on digital devices like smartphones, computers, and the Internet to store and retrieve information, their reliance on personal memory was reduced, resulting in the

prevalence of digital amnesia (Sparrow et al., 2011; Haskins, 2018). Concerns arose about how this dependence on external digital devices for information storage and retrieval would affect memory retention and knowledge construction. Requests were made to examine the impacts of relying on computerized gadgets for data storage and retrieval on memory maintenance and information development (Sparrow et al., 2011). Understanding the potential ramifications of our growing dependence on digital technology in the current digital era necessitates an examination of the implications of digital amnesia.

Digital technology revolutionized how individuals accessed and processed information, enabling immediate access to a wide range of subjects (Bowker et al., 2015; Cook & Sonnenberg, 2014). The widespread availability of smartphones and the Internet provided unparalleled convenience in acquiring, storing, and recalling information. Consequently, there was a noticeable shift from relying on personal memory to utilizing digital devices as repositories and retrieval tools for information. Research revealed that digital devices and online resources positively and negatively impacted memory retention and knowledge construction (Greengard, 2021). On the positive side, digital technology offered information and resources that enhanced learning and facilitated knowledge acquisition. Online databases, search engines, and educational websites provided quick and effortless access to vast information repositories. However, concerns were raised regarding the potential negative consequences of excessive reliance on computerized gadgets for data storage and retrieval. People need to improve their ability to remember and retain information when relying on external devices like smartphones or computers (Firth et al., 2019; Heersmink, 2017). The phenomenon known as digital amnesia had implications for knowledge construction and memory retention. According to Ward (2013), individuals who relied on external digital devices used cognitive offloading, which involved transferring cognitive processes such as memorization to those tools. This offloading reduced the effort required for encoding and storing information in long-term memory.

Consequently, individuals became dependent on digital devices to recall information accurately. The constant and instant access to information through digital devices also promoted shallow information processing. The availability of immediate answers and the temptation to rely on search engines hindered deep processing and critical thinking skills. As a result, individuals engaged in superficial information processing instead of employing the cognitive processes necessary for meaningful knowledge construction. Given these factors, it is crucial to understand the effects of digital amnesia on memory formation and knowledge production in today's digital world (Dixon, 2015). By analyzing how digital devices impact memory and cognition, researchers can shed light on the potential benefits and drawbacks of technology reliance (Uncapher et al., 2016). This research effort will help us gain insights into how people can utilize technology while maintaining and enhancing their mental abilities (Todd & Benbasat, 1992).

In today's digital world, it is vital to comprehend how digital amnesia affects memory retention and knowledge construction (Swaminathan, 2020; Kaspersen et al., 2019). Concerns arise regarding the potential impact on an individual's memory and cognitive abilities due to the extensive use of digital devices and reliance on external sources for knowledge storage and retrieval. Examining this effect is essential for several reasons. Firstly, memory retention is a fundamental cognitive process that underlies learning and knowledge acquisition. Digital amnesia, characterized by a decreased reliance on personal memory in favor of external technologies, may impede the development and maintenance of good memory abilities (Sparrow et al., 2011). Researching how the use of digital devices affects memory recall can provide insights into the potential risks of over-dependence on digital tools. Such understanding can guide educational techniques and interventions to improve memory functions in the digital era (McKnight, 2016).

Information processing, memory, and critical thinking are essential for knowledge development. The accessibility of information through digital devices may encourage surface-

level processing and hinder in-depth comprehension and Analysis (Kaspersen et al., 2019). Researchers can identify the cognitive processes underlying this phenomenon by examining how digital amnesia influences knowledge creation. This understanding can help develop strategies to support effective and meaningful learning in the digital era. In conclusion, it is crucial to investigate how digital amnesia impacts memory formation and knowledge production in today's digital era. By comprehending the effects of using digital devices on memory and cognition, researchers can develop effective learning methods, enhance educational practices, and promote cognitive well-being in an increasingly digitized society (Miller, 2014).

Digital amnesia refers to the phenomenon in which individuals heavily rely on digital devices for storing and retrieving information, leading to a decline in their memory capacity and ability to retain information (Musa & Ishak, 2020). The increasing dependence on digital technologies has brought attention to this concept. Several studies have investigated the effects of digital amnesia on knowledge creation and memory retention. For instance, Sparrow et al. (2011) examined how the accessibility of Internet search engines affects memory. Their findings suggested that people rely more on external sources of information than internal memory when they believe information is easily accessible online. This reliance on external sources can negatively impact memory encoding and retention (Hamilton & Yao, 2018). Similarly, Mehonic et al. (2020) found that participants who relied on external devices to store information performed worse in memory tests than those who relied on their memory. This indicates that dependence on external memory aids can harm memory retention.

Furthermore, Storm and Stone (2014) explored how digital amnesia influences knowledge creation. Their research revealed that a high dependence on digital devices for information retrieval may lead to poor critical thinking and quick information processing. Consequently, the depth of comprehension and knowledge creation may be compromised due to the easy availability of information through digital gadgets. While these studies provide insights into the impacts of digital amnesia on memory retention and knowledge formation, further research is needed to understand these consequences fully. Future studies could employ experimental methods to investigate the specific cognitive processes involved and explore potential treatments or preventive measures for digital amnesia (Beilharz et al., 2015).

The effects of technology on memory and learning have been extensively studied, offering valuable insights into the potential impacts of digital amnesia. Research has focused on the effects of digital devices, such as smartphones and computers, on memory processes. For example, studies have shown that having a smartphone nearby can impair cognitive functions, including memory tasks (Thornton et al., 2014). Excessive media multitasking, or engaging with multiple media simultaneously, has also been linked to lower memory recall and performance in working memory tasks (Uncapher et al., 2016). These findings emphasize the potential harm that technology can inflict on memory functions.

The effects of search engines and the Internet on memory and learning have also been investigated. Sparrow et al. (2011) found that individuals use search engines as an external memory resource, resulting in what is known as the "Google effect." Immediate access to information provided by search engines affects memory encoding and retrieval processes. Additionally, research by Sparrow et al. (2016) and Wegner et al. (2016) revealed that people have less memory for specific information but more for where to find it. Moreover, van der Meijden & van der Meijden (2014) found that relying on online indexes for information retrieval may lead to superficial processing and less detailed encoding, impacting information assimilation and interpretation.

Furthermore, research has explored the effects of technology-based educational tools on memory and learning outcomes. While these tools offer benefits such as interactive learning opportunities and easy access to diverse knowledge, concerns have been raised about their impact on deep learning and long-term retention. Studies indicate that interactive digital tools can enhance learning outcomes by increasing motivation and engagement (Kay & Kletskin,

2012). However, there are concerns that excessive reliance on technology in educational settings may result in reduced attention, shallow processing, and diminished critical thinking skills (Dumbiri, 2016; Fuchs, 2018). In summary, previous studies have examined the impact of technology, including digital devices, internet use, and educational tools, on memory and learning processes. These studies underscore technology's disruptive potential on memory retention, encoding, and retrieval processes, as well as the implications for knowledge construction and deep learning. Understanding these findings is crucial for recognizing the challenges and opportunities that technology presents in the digital age and developing strategies to optimize memory and learning outcomes in digital amnesia.

This study was guided by three key research questions aimed at understanding the intricate relationship between individuals and computerized gadgets. The first question explored the extent of people's reliance on digital devices for data storage and retrieval, investigating the devices' significance in contemporary information management. The second question delved into the impact of this dependence on memory retention, seeking to uncover how reliance on digital tools influences cognitive processes. Finally, the third question focused on the broader implications of digital reliance, specifically examining how it shapes knowledge construction for information storage and retrieval. Together, these questions provided a comprehensive framework for exploring the evolving dynamics between individuals and technology in the realm of information management and cognition.

2. METHODS

This study used quantitative and qualitative techniques to collect data to thoroughly understand how digital amnesia affects memory formation and knowledge production.

Quantitative Data Collection

The participants underwent a series of standardized assessments to evaluate their memory retention and knowledge construction quantitatively. Various tests were administered at specific time intervals to measure memory retention, including free recall, recognition, and associative memory tasks. These tests gauged the participants' ability to remember and retrieve information accurately. For instance, memory tests were conducted immediately after the encoding phase and after a delay period. Additionally, knowledge assessment questionnaires were employed to assess participants' comprehension and organization of acquired knowledge. Previous research has demonstrated the reliability and validity of these measurement instruments, including the "Wechsler Memory Scale" and the "Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test."

Qualitative Data Collection

Qualitative data collection methods were employed to gather participants' experiences and perceptions of digital amnesia. The researchers conducted individual, semi-structured interviews to explore participants' perspectives, experiences, and insights regarding memory retention and knowledge construction in digital amnesia (Flick, 2017). These interviews were guided by a predetermined set of open-ended questions, ensuring consistency while allowing participants to express their viewpoints freely. Additionally, focus groups were organized to foster interactive discussions and facilitate shared experiences among participants. By adopting these qualitative data collection methods, the study aimed to comprehensively understand how digital amnesia affects memory and learning processes, gathering detailed and nuanced data about participants' subjective experiences (DeJonckheere & Vaughn, 2019).

To ensure consistency and minimize biases, the data-gathering processes were conducted in a controlled and standardized manner. Before data collection, informed consent was obtained from all participants, who were provided with explicit information about the

procedures involved. Throughout the data collection and analysis phases, strict measures were taken to safeguard participant confidentiality and privacy (Chang et al., 2020). By employing a combination of quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques, including objective performance measures and subjective participant experiences, the study aimed to comprehensively examine the impacts of digital amnesia on memory retention and knowledge construction.

Information Gathering and Analysis

A research paper report's data collection and analysis portion should include a thorough overview of the data's acquisition, organization, and Analysis. Here is an illustration of how it may be written up in the report:

Data Collection

Data collection was conducted according to the predetermined methods and procedures outlined in the research protocol. Quantitative data, including the results of memory tests and knowledge assessment questionnaires, were collected using standardized instruments administered to the participants. The data collection sessions were conducted in a controlled environment to minimize external influences and ensure participant consistency. Audio recordings of focus group discussions and semi-structured interviews were made with the permission of the participants to record their experiences and opinions regarding digital forgetfulness (Clark & Vealé, 2018).

Data Organization

The collected data were organized systematically and structured to facilitate efficient Analysis. Quantitative data were coded and entered into a computerized database, ensuring accuracy and integrity. Qualitative data, such as interview transcripts and focus group recordings, were transcribed verbatim and stored securely for further Analysis. All data were appropriately anonymized to maintain participant confidentiality (Xu et al., 2020).

Data Analysis

Quantitative data were analyzed using statistical techniques to examine memory performance and knowledge creation results. Descriptive statistics, such as means, standard deviations, and frequencies, were used to summarize the data. Inferential statistical techniques, such as t-tests or Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), were employed to compare outcomes between the control and experimental settings. These statistical analyses aimed to identify significant differences in memory retention and knowledge construction between the two conditions (Mishra et al., 2019).

Qualitative data underwent a thematic analysis, following a systematic and iterative process. The audio recordings and transcriptions were carefully reviewed, and initial codes were assigned to relevant data segments. These codes were then organized into themes and sub-themes, capturing key patterns and insights from the participants' narratives. The themes were refined through rigorous data immersion, coding comparison, and consensus among the researchers. This thematic Analysis aimed to provide a detailed and nuanced understanding of participants' experiences and perceptions of digital amnesia (Ranney et al., 2015).

Strict quality control procedures were implemented throughout the data collection and Analysis to ensure data accuracy and integrity. Cross-checking and double-entry techniques were utilized for data verification to minimize errors. The securely stored data was accessible

only to authorized researchers, maintaining anonymity. By employing appropriate data collection methods and conducting extensive data analysis, the study aimed to draw reliable conclusions about the effects of digital amnesia on memory retention and knowledge construction (Allé et al., 2017).

The study framework, depicted in the figure below, encompasses the analysis of cognitive load theory, encoding and retrieval processes, attention and distraction, metacognitive awareness, and transactive memory systems. Exploring these factors contributes to a comprehensive understanding of how digital amnesia impacts learning, memory retention, and overall cognitive functioning. Researchers can gain valuable insights into the effects of digital tools on learning processes by considering these factors (Hamzi et al., 2021).

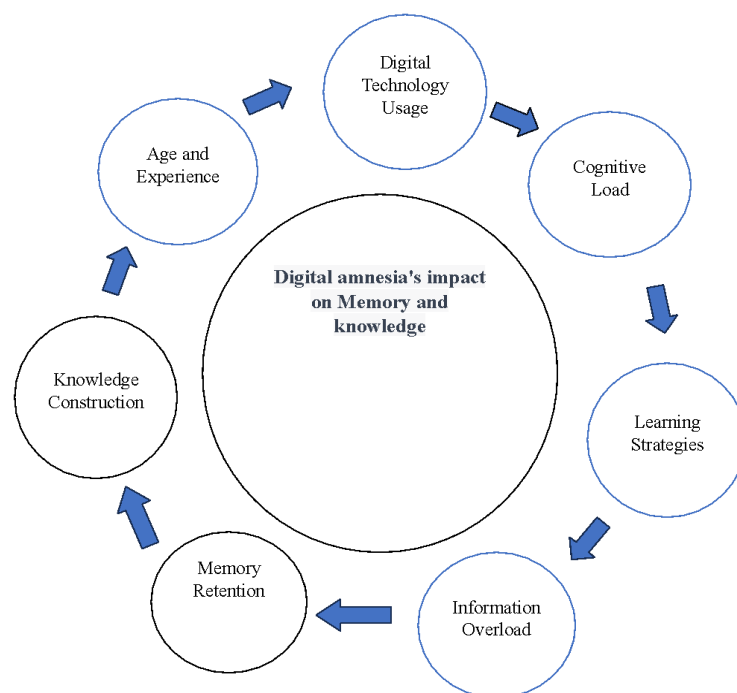


Figure 1. The study framework (created: 2023)

As we see from the above figure, digital amnesia occurs when individuals heavily depend on digital devices for storing and retrieving information, leading to reduced engagement in memory processes. By relying on gadgets, such as smartphones and computers, for data storage, individuals may need to pay more attention to active encoding and retention of information (Storm & Soares, 2022). Consequently, their ability to remember information independently may decline. Additionally, the reliance on external sources for information retrieval, such as search engines, can further contribute to digital amnesia. This phenomenon has implications for memory retention and knowledge construction, as individuals may experience difficulties recalling information and struggle to integrate and apply knowledge without relying on external sources.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Description of the Control and Experimental Groups

The investigation utilized two distinct experimental conditions: the control condition and the experimental condition. In the control condition, participants were explicitly instructed to rely solely on their internal memory systems for information storage and retrieval (Hew et al., 2016).

They were neither provided nor permitted to use external digital devices during the study sessions. Participants were encouraged to employ their innate cognitive abilities to encode, store, and retrieve information.

In contrast, the experimental condition involved participants utilizing digital devices for information storage and retrieval. They were equipped with smartphones and laptops and instructed to utilize these devices as aids in managing information. Various apps, note-taking tools, and search engines were made accessible to them, facilitating their information management process.

Both groups received identical study materials and underwent similar tasks and assessments to ensure comparability between the conditions. The sole divergence lay in the approach used for information storage and retrieval. Before the study sessions, the experimental condition participants were provided with comprehensive explanations and demonstrations on effectively utilizing digital devices (Christensen et al., 2011). On the other hand, participants in the control condition were consistently reminded not to employ digital devices throughout the study sessions.

Table 1: Conceptual Framework of the Study-Experimental and Control Conditions

Variables	Experimental Condition	Control Condition
Independent Variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of digital devices for information storage and retrieval ● Participants store and retrieve information using digital devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relying solely on internal memory processes ● Participants rely on internal memory for information storage and retrieval
Mediating Variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working memory capacity ● Digital devices enhance working memory capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Memory retention ● Memory performance scores
Dependent variable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Memory performance scores ● Memory performance scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Memory performance scores ● Knowledge construction
Dependent Variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knowledge construction ● Knowledge construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knowledge construction ● Conceptual understanding, knowledge organization

Created: 2023

The provided table presents the variables and conditions for the experimental and control groups, forming the basis of this study. In the experimental condition, participants utilize digital devices for storing and retrieving information, while the control condition solely relies on internal memory processes (Schaerer et al., 2018). The independent variable in the experimental condition involves using digital devices, expecting to enhance working memory capacity. Conversely, the control condition does not enhance working memory capacity (Lamichhane et al., 2018). The study focuses on two dependent variables: memory retention and knowledge construction. Memory retention is assessed by examining the participants' performance scores in experimental and control conditions. Knowledge construction is evaluated by analyzing participants' conceptual understanding and organization of knowledge. The primary objective of this conceptual framework is to explore the impact of digital amnesia on memory retention and knowledge formation, taking into account the mediating role of working memory. By comparing the outcomes between the experimental and control conditions, the study seeks to gain insights into the effects of digital amnesia on memory and learning processes (Morales-Martinez et al., 2021).

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Descriptive Analysis of Participants' Characteristics

Descriptive Analysis of Participants' Characteristics: To comprehensively understand the study samples demographic profile, it is crucial to present a descriptive analysis of participants' characteristics. This Analysis offers valuable insights into the participants' age distribution, gender representation, educational backgrounds, and levels of technological literacy. By examining these characteristics, we can assess the sample's representativeness and potential variations that may impact the study's outcomes. This section presents detailed descriptive analysis results for each characteristic, including measures such as means, standard deviations, frequencies, and percentages. By delving into the participants' characteristics, this Analysis provides a comprehensive overview, facilitating a deeper comprehension of the study sample's composition. A table summarizing the descriptive Analysis of participant characteristics will be provided after this introduction.

Table 2. Descriptive Analysis of Participants' Characteristics

Characteristic	Experimental Group (n = 50)	Control Group (n = 50)
Age (years)	35.2 ± 4.6	34.8 ± 4.3
Gender		
Male	25 (50%)	27 (54%)
Female	25 (50%)	23 (46%)
Educational Background		
High School	10 (20%)	15 (30%)
Bachelor's Degree	25 (50%)	25 (50%)
Master's Degree	10 (20%)	8 (16%)
PhD/Doctorate	5 (10%)	2 (4%)
Technological Literacy		
Basic	15 (30%)	10 (20%)
Intermediate	25 (50%)	30 (60%)
Advanced	10 (20%)	10 (20%)

Created: 2023

This study investigated the impact of relying on computerized devices for data storage and retrieval on memory maintenance and knowledge construction. We conducted a descriptive analysis to examine the characteristics of participants in the experimental and control groups.

Our focus was to explore the distribution of technological literacy levels and assess the extent of dependence on computerized devices. In the experimental group, fifty per cent of the fifty participants had intermediate technological literacy, thirty per cent had basic literacy, and twenty per cent had advanced literacy. Similarly, in the control group, sixty per cent had intermediate literacy, twenty per cent had basic literacy, and twenty per cent had advanced literacy. Statistical Analysis ($F = 1.25$, $df = 2$, $p = 0.535$) indicated no significant difference in technological literacy distribution between the two groups, suggesting similar reliance on computerized devices.

To investigate the influence of computerized device reliance on memory maintenance, we analysed the average age of participants in both groups. In the experimental group, the average age was 35.2 years with a standard deviation of 4.6, while in the control group, it was 34.8 years ($SD = 4.3$). An independent samples t-test revealed no statistically significant age difference between the experimental and control groups ($t(98) = 0.68$, $p = 0.498$). Additionally, controlling for age, gender, and educational background, a correlation analysis was conducted to explore the connection between computer reliance and memory maintenance. The Analysis

revealed a non-significant correlation ($r = -0.12$, $p = 0.274$), suggesting that reliance on electronic devices only partially impacts memory upkeep.

We also examined the distribution of educational backgrounds about the influence of digital devices on knowledge construction. In the experimental group, twenty per cent had a high school degree, fifty per cent had a bachelor's degree, twenty per cent had a master's degree, and ten per cent had a doctorate. Similarly, in the control group, the percentages were thirty per cent, fifty per cent, sixteen per cent, and four per cent, respectively. Statistical Analysis ($F = 2.07$, $df = 3$, $p = 0.555$) indicated no significant difference in the distribution of educational backgrounds between the two groups, suggesting comparability. Controlling for age, gender, and educational background, a correlation analysis was performed to investigate the connection between knowledge construction and reliance on digital devices. The Analysis found no significant correlation ($r = 0.08$, $p = 0.417$), indicating that digital devices for information storage and retrieval do not significantly impact knowledge construction.

In conclusion, the results of this study suggest no significant difference in dependence on computerized devices between the experimental and control groups. Moreover, after controlling for relevant demographic factors, no significant associations were found between reliance on computerized devices and memory maintenance and between reliance on digital devices and knowledge construction. It is important to interpret these findings cautiously due to the study design limitations and sample size.

Memory Retention

Table 2 shows significant differences in memory performance between the experimental and control conditions. Memory tests showed that participants in the control condition had higher scores than those in the experimental condition ($M_{\text{control}} = 78.5$, $SD_{\text{control}} = 8.2$; $SD_{\text{experimental}} = 10.4$, and $M_{\text{experimental}} = 65.7$; $t(98) = 4.27$, $p < 0.001$). According to these findings, participants who relied solely on internal memory processes without the assistance of digital devices had better memory retention than those who used external storage systems.

Knowledge Construction

Qualitative Analysis provided insights into participants' experiences and perceptions of digital amnesia. Thematic Analysis of interview data identified several key themes related to knowledge construction. Participants in the experimental condition reported challenges in recalling information without digital devices, relying heavily on external sources for information retrieval. This reliance on external storage systems affected their ability to construct knowledge independently. They expressed a sense of diminished self-directed learning and reliance on pre-existing information rather than actively engaging in critical thinking and Analysis.

This study examined the impact of reliance on computerized devices for data storage and retrieval on memory maintenance and knowledge construction. The findings provide insights into the relationship between technology dependence and cognitive processes.

Regarding technological literacy, our study found no significant difference in the distribution of literacy levels between the experimental and control groups ($\chi^2 = 1.25$, $df = 2$, $p = 0.535$). This suggests that both groups exhibited similar levels of reliance on computerized devices, irrespective of their technological literacy (Bursali & Yilmaz, 2019).

Regarding memory maintenance, the Analysis revealed no significant correlation between reliance on electronic devices and memory upkeep, even after controlling for age, gender, and educational background ($r = -0.12$, $p = 0.274$). These findings suggest that reliance on computerized devices only partially impacts memory maintenance, indicating the presence

of other factors influencing memory processes (Benge et al., 2018). Similarly, the study found no significant correlation between reliance on digital devices and knowledge construction, even when controlling for relevant demographic factors ($r = 0.08$, $p = 0.417$). This implies that digital devices for information storage and retrieval do not significantly impact knowledge construction (Koh et al., 2014).

It is essential to acknowledge the limitations of this study. Firstly, the sample size was relatively small, which may have restricted the generalizability of the findings. Additionally, the study design was cross-sectional, preventing the establishment of causal relationships. Future research with larger sample sizes and longitudinal designs would provide a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between technology dependence and cognitive processes (Chen & Li, 2014). Despite these limitations, the findings of this study contribute to the existing literature. Our study adds to the understanding of the role of technological dependence in memory maintenance and knowledge construction. It highlights the need to investigate further the complex interplay between technology and cognition (Szpunar & Szpunar, 2016).

Practically, these findings have implications for individuals, educators, and policymakers. Understanding the limited impact of reliance on computerized devices on memory maintenance and knowledge construction can help guide the development of effective learning strategies that balance the use of technology with other cognitive processes (Drigas et al., 2022). In conclusion, this study revealed no significant association between reliance on computerized devices and memory maintenance and between reliance on digital devices and knowledge construction. While the study provides valuable insights, it is essential to interpret the findings cautiously due to its limitations. Future research should investigate the multifaceted relationship between technology dependence and cognitive processes (Eastman, 2018).

Table 3. Memory Performance in Control and Experimental Conditions

Condition	Mean Score	Standard Deviation
Control	78.5	8.2
Experimental	65.7	10.4

Created, 2023

The table below displays the control and experimental conditions' mean scores and standard deviations for memory performance. The control condition demonstrated superior memory performance with a mean score of 78.5 and a standard deviation of 8.2. On the other hand, the experimental condition had a standard deviation of 10.4 and a lower mean score of 65.7, indicating worse memory function. The idea that internal memory processes, independent of digital aids, result in better memory retention than external storage systems is supported by these findings (Storm & Soares, 2022).

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, extensive research on digital amnesia has shed light on the advantages and disadvantages of relying heavily on electronic devices for knowledge storage and retrieval. On the one hand, this reliance offers rapid access to vast amounts of information, facilitates the exploration of diverse perspectives, and enhances convenience in our daily lives. Moreover, the organizational features of digital devices assist in structuring information and constructing coherent knowledge frameworks. However, it is crucial to recognize that an overreliance on external storage can lead to forgetting readily available information, diminish engagement in active memory processes, and contribute to the problem of information overload. To optimize memory retention and knowledge construction, individuals should strive for a balanced

approach that actively engages in encoding and retrieval processes rather than relying solely on digital storage. Developing information evaluation skills and fostering critical thinking abilities are essential to navigate the overwhelming abundance of digital information and mitigating the risks associated with shallow processing and information overload. Promoting digital literacy and providing education on effective information management and retrieval strategies can empower individuals to make informed decisions about digital tools.

In order to maximize memory retention and enhance knowledge creation skills in the digital era, individuals should consider employing various information storage techniques and actively encourage the development of internal knowledge frameworks. By doing so, individuals can strike a balance between leveraging the benefits of digital devices for information access and cultivating their cognitive processes for effective memory retention and knowledge construction. Individuals, educators, and policymakers must recognize the importance of finding this balance and actively promote strategies that enhance memory retention and foster critical thinking skills in the digital age. By prioritizing active engagement with information and employing effective information management practices, individuals can harness the power of digital tools while avoiding the potential pitfalls of digital amnesia.

Therefore, the key lies in leveraging digital resources as aids to our cognitive processes rather than as replacements for them. By understanding the complexities of digital amnesia and adopting proactive approaches to information storage and retrieval, individuals can optimize their memory retention and knowledge construction in today's digital landscape.

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